

AUGUST 1946

# The INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER



*Official Magazine*

THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS • CHAUFFEURS • WAREHOUSEMEN & HELPERS OF AMERICA



## Good-bye, Little Merchant!

**O**N JULY 1, big business got its wish. The OPA was drowned in a flood of propaganda released by the organized industries of America. The surge of prices upward began almost instantly. No legislation Congress has enacted, or that the National Association of Manufacturers will let it enact, can halt the steady spiraling in the cost of living.

A lot of foolish little merchants jumped up and down with joy when Congress passed the phony price control bill that killed OPA regardless of a presidential veto.

They chanted with ecstasy that they were free from price control. They thought they could roll in the money trough with the big boys.

But they found out differently. That money trough is off limits for all but the captains of industry who financed the long and costly campaign to kill the OPA.

The little groceries and meat markets and other shops run by rugged individuals have discovered that they are not free from price control, as they imagined. They merely substituted private control for federal control.

The big industries are raising prices to the little merchants who, in turn, are raising their prices to the public. But the little merchants take all the heat. It is to them that the indignant public makes its complaints.

The little merchant has been maneuvered into the position where he must skimp his profits to keep his customers. He isn't as happy as he was.

He shouldn't be. He is on the way out. When the public is no longer willing or able to pay the inflated prices, it is the little merchant who will go bankrupt.

He will be replaced by agents of the big industries that fix prices. The big industries will then control the retail outlets of their products as well as the wholesale. Every time a product is moved, it will bring them an added profit.

Already the monopolies are cutting the ground out from under the foolish little corner grocer who thought he was a big shot. They are underselling him and letting him sweat it out with his angry customers.

He thought he was being "regimented" by the OPA. That was what the big industries told him to think. He swallowed their smooth words and applauded when his Congress left him helpless.

Now he has economic indigestion. He is finding out what regimentation really is. It is not the "regimentation" of the OPA that protected his profits while it protected his customers' prices.

It is the ruthless regimentation of extermination, practiced by monopolies that will tolerate no competition. They are hungry for the profits denied them by the government during the war. They want all the public has saved, and all it earns.

And it looks as though they were about to get it.

Good-bye, little merchant. We have "free enterprise" now.



# The INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER



**Official Magazine** INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS  
CHAUFFEURS . . . WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS

Vol. XLIII

AUGUST, 1946

Number 9

Produce More and Buy Less to Beat Profiteers . . . . .	2
Teamsters Invite Locals of Brewery Workers to Affiliate . . . .	3
Hobbs Bill Does Not Handcuff Labor, Says Padway . . . . .	5
Rising Prices Imperil Democratic Government . . . . .	9
St. Louis Restores Daily Milk Delivery and Raises Wages . . .	11
Chicago Sun Brands Hobbs Bill as Bad Law . . . . .	12
Congress Abdicates to Profiteers with Taft as Leader . . . .	13
All Local Unions Should Start Immediate Organizing Drive . .	14
Truman Veto Message Exposes Danger in Phony OPA Bill . . .	15
Subsidies Go and So Do Milk Prices—Higher and Higher . . .	17
Memphis Local Dedicates New Building to John M. Gillespie . .	18
Labor News Notes of the Month . . . . .	20
Newspaper Demands Return of Daily Milk Deliveries . . . .	22
Bilbo Won by Threat of Violence. Senate Should Unseat Him . .	25
Minutes of Executive Board Meeting in Chicago . . . . .	26
The Cotton Monopoly Squeals . . . . .	Inside Back Cover

Office of Publication  
222 E. Michigan Street . . . . . Indianapolis 4, Ind.

**Daniel J. Tobin, Editor**  
**Thomas E. Flynn, Assistant Editor**

Entered as second-class matter, February 23, 1906,  
at the postoffice at Indianapolis, Ind., under the  
Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage  
provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 2, 1917,  
authorized on July 8, 1918.

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Per Annum . . . . . \$2.50 | Single Copies 25 Cents  
(All Orders Payable in Advance)

Published Monthly

#### TRUSTEES

MILTON DOLL, 39 W. McMicken Ave., Cincinnati,  
Ohio.

JAMES R. HOFFA, 2741 Trumbull Ave., Detroit,  
Mich.

WILLIAM A. LEE, 220 S. Ashland Blvd., Chicago,  
Ill.

#### GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

General President, DANIEL J. TOBIN, 222 E.  
Michigan St., Indianapolis, Ind.

General Secretary-Treasurer, JOHN F. ENGLISH,  
222 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis, Ind.

First Vice-President, M. J. CASHAL, Room 712,  
265 West 14th Street, New York, N. Y.

Second Vice-President, JOHN P. McLAUGHLIN,  
536 Bryant St., San Francisco, Calif.

Third Vice-President, D. J. MURPHY, 4111 Forest  
Park Blvd., St. Louis, Mo.

Fourth Vice-President, JOHN J. CONLIN, 89  
Adams St., Hoboken, N. J.

Fifth Vice-President, THOMAS J. FARRELL, 39  
W. McMicken Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Sixth Vice-President, DAVE BECK, 552 Denny  
Way, Seattle, Wash.

Seventh Vice-President, EDWARD CRUMBOCK,  
105 Spring Garden St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Eighth Vice-President, SIDNEY L. BRENNAN,  
706 First Ave., N., Minneapolis, Minn.

Ninth Vice-President, JOHN T. O'BRIEN, 4217 S.  
Halsted St., Chicago, Ill.



# Beat Profiteers by Buying Less

Protest Strikes Will Increase Prices — Stay at Work!

**S**OME union leaders, drunk with power and mad for publicity, are advocating general strikes to stop the rising cost of living.

They are too new to the labor movement or too ignorant of economics to understand the result of what they advocate.

The wrong way to cope with living costs is to shut down industry. That would only aggravate present shortages and send prices higher.

The right way to reduce living costs is to buy less and produce more. That means staying on the job. It means reducing your purchases of *everything* to the absolute minimum.

Buy as little food as you can get by on. Buy no clothes if you can put a patch on an old suit or an old shirt and make it last a little longer.

Drive the old car a few thousand miles more or ride the streetcars.

Don't run down to the store with your pay check in your hand when you see new radios or vacuum cleaners advertised. Make the old rugs and carpets do, no matter how thin or ragged they are.

This magazine vigorously supported the OPA and bitterly protests its repeal. The death of the OPA will bring hardships on everybody except a few profiteers.

But the only place to hit a profiteer is in his pocketbook. You can knock him cold if you refuse to buy the things he offers you.

As production goes up, prices will come down. They will come down faster if you buy less, because then you increase the supply on hand.

The Teamsters' Union foresees grave consequences as a result of the public betrayal on OPA. We discuss them in this issue, as we have in previous issues of this magazine.

The consequences will be made graver by

hasty action on the part of labor. Leaders who advocate a strike merely as a protest against Congress are playing with fire. They are inviting a greater peril than that which exists.

Labor has a chance to bring the nation out of the crisis precipitated by an impotent Congress and a sinister conspiracy of industrial interests.

If labor succeeds, its influence will rise to new heights and it will have the power to permanently correct basic faults in our economic system. It can raise the standard of living in the United States and stabilize conditions throughout the world.

This is a time for cool heads who can analyze complicated situations such as this and advise a course of action for the public benefit.

They cannot afford to let their anger or resentment blind them to the consequences of bad advice from poorly informed and irresponsible leaders.

**THE POLICY OF THE TEAMSTERS' UNION IS TO STAY ON THE JOB!**

This does not mean that we are surrendering to inflation. On the contrary it means we are fighting it with the most effective weapons we have — our productive power and our buying power.

Our advice to our membership is—don't get frightened and don't get impulsive. Save your anger for election day, when you can take care of the congressmen and senators who threw us into this mess.

Spend more energy on the job and less money in the stores.

That's the only chance you have to win. If every union pursues this same policy, we may win.

Labor is the only hope of the country today.

We must not fail.

---

We have enough common sense to know that the wrecking of the OPA will mean only that we can now see the goods we will be unable to buy.

—Journeyman Plumbers' and Steam Fitters' Journal.



# Teamsters Invite Brewery Workers

## Entire Locals Can Join, Retaining Officers and Contracts

By DANIEL J. TOBIN

**T**HE Brewery Workers' International Union, in a referendum, decided by a vote of 19,241 to 22,900 to affiliate with the CIO. The majority was very small, considering the fact that every member of the general executive board of the Brewery Workers' Union recommended the CIO to the general membership. The members of the general executive board won out by a bare majority of 3,000.

If the CIO has no better luck with the Brewery Workers than the American Federation of Labor and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters have had in trying to force them to observe the decisions and carry out the AFL policies, then the CIO has not much to be grateful for.

The Brewery Workers' International officers are perhaps the most obstinate and, in the judgment of many of us, the most stupid in the labor movement.

For 35 years the International Brotherhood of Teamsters has been endeavoring, in endless conferences, to reach an agreement with those people, based on the decisions of the conventions of the American Federation of Labor, but 35 years of conferences were useless, and the result is as stated above.

The selfishness of the International officers over all those years has been the cause of all the trouble. They would abide by no decisions of any tribunal.

They appealed from decisions of the Federation to the courts of the nation, and the courts decided against them, but all of this to no avail.

They have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars of the money paid in by their good union members on lawyers and in court proceedings.

Those Brewery Workers' International officers have used every means at their disposal to defy the decisions of the American Federation of Labor from which they re-

ceived their charter and with which they were affiliated for years.

Now they have thrown themselves into the camp of the CIO where, of course, they will carry on in their own way in defiance of any decisions that may be made by the CIO, even though that organization allows its affiliated unions to about do as they please.

The master brewers are worried to death. They don't want anything to do with the CIO and its extreme radicalism, such as exemplified in recent years in sit-down strikes, in failure to negotiate, in violation of the usual rules and procedures adopted by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

But the master brewers are not to be pitied, and they deserve no sympathy. When they could have advised their people to become affiliated with an international union noted for its observance of written contracts and for its opposition to strikes except as a last resort, the master brewers did nothing. They simply swam along with the current, and now they may have plenty of trouble.

Of course, many Brewery Workers' local unions are affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

The 19,241 members who voted against the general executive board of the Brewery Workers wanted nothing to do with the CIO. They are real, decent trade unionists. Many of the others who wanted to support their general executive board were opposed to the CIO but went along with their board. The best words we can use in describing their feelings is that they are disgusted and disappointed.

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters, from now on, will admit to membership any local union of Brewery Workers, inside or outside. We will allow them to



have full control over their own finances, the regulation of their dues, the adoption of their rules in conformity with our constitution.

All their present contracts must be observed until their expiration, and the present elected officers of local unions cannot be disturbed until their term of office expires, and then they may be re-elected.

In other words, we will admit them to membership and charter them as they are, without any attempt to change their present method of doing business.

This pledge will hold good until the convention of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters is held sometime in 1947, and it will hold good after that unless the constitution of the Teamsters is changed by our convention, which change applies to all our locals.

All locals of Brewery Workers who have been chartered by the Teamsters will be represented by delegates at the convention and will participate in all decisions made by the convention.

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters has no heavy fees for affiliation or charter. We have some information that the per capita tax now paid by local unions of the Brewery Workers to their International is very much more than the per capita tax of the Brotherhood of Teamsters, which is 30 cents a month per member. We are ready to charter any local union that so applies on the above conditions. We guarantee them full protection and all the resources of the International Union, with its millions of

dollars and its almost 800,000 paid-up members, in accordance with our constitution and laws.

We have now thousands of Brewery Workers affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and they are all perfectly satisfied with their treatment since they became a part of the Brotherhood, and under no circumstances would they think of leaving the Brotherhood or going back to the Brewery Workers.

The action of the Brewery Workers in voting for the CIO should help our International Union because, under the present set-up, we are within our rights to admit into membership either inside or outside brewery workers.

If the Brewery Workers had voted to return to the American Federation of Labor, we would have been obligated by the American Federation of Labor not to interfere with any inside workers.

Now the door is wide open, and we welcome any Brewery Workers' Union into our fold and into our strong, healthy national organization, and we assure the employers of those people in the meantime that their contracts now existing will be accepted by us.

Brewery Workers, we appeal to you to become a part once again of the American Federation of Labor and its 7,000,000 members by joining the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and preserving that solidarity and unity in the labor movement for which you were noted and respected for so many years.

## Anti-Roosevelt Press Favored Hobbs Bill

Every newspaper in America that was opposed to the election of Roosevelt and Truman advocated the passage of the Hobbs bill.

Organized labor as a unit opposed the Hobbs bill because there was no need of comparing union members and representatives with racketeers and extortionists. The labor movement, and especially the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, has been opposed to any form of racketeering

and law-breaking, and in its time has expelled more than one member for even suspicion of racketeering or extortion.

We hope the large membership of the Teamsters' Union and their friends will remember on election day those who were its friends who opposed the passage of the Hobbs anti-racketeering bill.

They should also not ever forget those congressmen who favored passage of the bill.



# Hobbs Bill Does Not Handcuff Labor

Padway Says All Rights Protected Under New Law

By JOSEPH A. PADWAY

General Counsel, International Brotherhood of Teamsters

**P**RESIDENT TOBIN has requested me to advise him as to the effects of the so-called Hobbs bill on unions and their activities.

By way of preface it may be well to state that all previous analyses, comments and explanations respecting prior bills on this subject introduced in Congress by Representative Hobbs of Alabama should be disregarded.

The bill passed by the Senate on June 21, 1946, and approved by the President on July 3, is the last of a series of bills introduced by Congressman Hobbs to amend the so-called "Anti-Racketeering Act" of June 18, 1934.

The bill which was finally passed and approved must be interpreted in the light of what is written in that bill and not what may have appeared in previous bills.

Also, in construing the bill, there must be taken into account the interpretation placed upon it by the attorney general of the United States in his advice to the President and in the statement of the President accompanying his signature to the bill.

The Hobbs bill does not create any new classification of crime or crimes. It does not enact any new definition of crime or crimes.

It merely makes robbery and extortion, as now defined under state laws, crimes under the federal laws when robbery and extortion are committed in interstate commerce.

The sole purpose of the Hobbs bill, and it is strictly confined, is to prohibit the crimes of robbery and extortion in interstate commerce. The Act goes no further than to provide that it is unlawful for any person to obstruct, delay or affect commerce, or the movement of any article or commodity in commerce, "by robbery or extortion."

There is another provision in the Act (Section 5) which makes it unlawful to com-

mit or threaten physical violence to any person or property.

But it is only when the violence or threatened violence takes place in furtherance of a plan or purpose to commit robbery or extortion that it constitutes a crime under the Hobbs bill.

It will thus be seen that the Act is strictly confined to the prohibition of robbery and extortion in interstate commerce.

Because there has been considerable comment respecting the definitions of "robbery" and "extortion" as written in the Act, and because there has been much said to the effect that the definitions of "robbery" and "extortion" in the Act are so broad and comprehensive as to prevent activities in furtherance of lawful and peaceful trade union activities, it becomes necessary to explain in some detail that that is not the fact.

The definitions of "robbery" and "extortion" in the Act are no different and no broader than the definitions of "robbery" and "extortion" set forth in most of the state statutes defining these crimes; in fact, the definitions of "robbery" and "extortion" in the Hobbs bill are almost identical with the definitions appearing in the Penal Code of the State of New York, and the New York Code has been in force and effect for over half a century.

The foregoing is so tremendously important that I desire to set forth the definitions of "robbery" and "extortion" as enacted in the Hobbs bill, and the same definitions in the Penal Code of New York.

**ROBBERY** as defined under the *Hobbs* bill [Sec. 1 (b)]:

"The term 'robbery' means the unlawful taking or obtaining of personal property, from the person or in the presence of another, against his will, by means of actual or threatened force, or violence, or fear of injury, immediate or future, to his person or property, or property in



his custody or possession, or the person or property of a relative or member of his family or anyone in his company at the time of the taking or obtaining."

EXTORTION as defined under the Hobbs bill [Sec. 1 (c)]:

"The term 'extortion' means the obtaining of property from another, with his consent, induced by wrongful use of actual or threatened force, violence, or fear, or under color of official right."

ROBBERY as defined in the *Penal Code of New York*:

"Sec. 2120. Robbery defined. Robbery is the unlawful taking of personal property, from the person or in the presence of another, against his will, by means of force, or violence, or fear of injury, immediate or future, to his person or property, or the person or property of a relative or member of his family, or of anyone in his company at the time of the robbery."

EXTORTION as defined in the *Penal Code of New York*:

"Sec. 850. Extortion defined. Extortion is the obtaining of property from another, or the obtaining the property of a corporation from an officer, agent or employee thereof, with the consent, induced by a wrongful use of force or fear, or under color of official right. L. 1917, c. 518, eff. Sept. 1, 1917."

Thus, it is clear from the foregoing that that which is not robbery and extortion without the Hobbs bill does not become robbery and extortion under the Hobbs bill; and the Hobbs bill does no more than to say that that which was robbery and extortion prior to the passage of the Hobbs bill may constitute robbery and extortion under the Hobbs bill if such robbery and extortion "obstructs, delays, or affects commerce, or the movement of any article or commodity in commerce."

Much has been said and written with respect to the subject of violence under the Hobbs bill, and some writers have failed to interpret this section correctly, and they have left the impression that violence on a picket line, etc., if such picket line has to do with interstate commerce, constitutes a crime under the Hobbs bill.

That is wholly incorrect. Only when physical violence is threatened to or com-

mitted on any person or property in furtherance of a plan to commit robbery or extortion is there a violation of the Act.

A careful reading of the provisions relating to this subject in the Act makes clear the foregoing interpretation:

"Sec. 5. Whoever commits or threatens physical violence to any person or property in furtherance of a plan or purpose to do anything in violation of Section 2 [obstructing commerce by robbery and extortion] shall be guilty of a felony."

Thus, injury to person or property, no matter how serious, on a picket line established in furtherance of a labor dispute involving interstate commerce is not a violation of the Hobbs bill, even though it did interfere with interstate commerce, unless the fracas was in furtherance of robbery or extortion, or a plan to rob or extort, as defined in the Act.

If the fracas consisted of assault and battery or destruction of property, the existing state laws pertaining to assault and battery, or destruction of property, are applicable, and prosecution can only be had under the state laws, and this would be true without the Hobbs bill.

For the purpose of emphasis, I repeat that the Hobbs bill is not applicable to any unlawful conduct other than conduct in connection with robbery and extortion. Even then, it must obstruct, delay or affect interstate commerce.

There was much speculation as to what courts would do respecting conduct of workers who engaged in strikes, boycotts, picketing and other usual activities, such as the demand for employment of stand-bys, etc., arising in connection with labor controversies over wages, hours and working conditions.

*The enacted Hobbs bill in no way affects the activities engaged in by unions prior to the passage of the Hobbs bill if such activities were lawful prior to the passage of the bill.*

The bill does not prohibit striking, picketing, boycotting, or other activities in furtherance of demands for increased wages,



shorter hours or other improved working conditions.

The Act does not make the "taking" or "obtaining" of personal property from the person of another, even against his will, by actual or threatened force, or fear of injury, etc., a crime.

It is only the "unlawful" taking or obtaining of property from another against his will by actual or threatened force or violence, or fear of injury, that constitutes a crime.

It would not be a crime for a union to threaten a strike or engage in a strike in furtherance of a demand for higher wages, even though such demand was agreed to by the employer against his will because he feared loss of property from a threatened strike.

The union obtaining an increased wage—which is obtaining property of an employer—and in this instance against the employer's will, has not violated the Hobbs bill because the strike or threatened strike is not an "unlawful" act.

Likewise in extortion—the taking must be "wrongful."

It was feared, however, that some courts might take a contrary view, and that was pointed out when the first series of Hobbs bills were introduced in Congress.

So later bills, and particularly the bill which has been enacted into law, contain the proviso:

**"Title II provides that nothing in the bill shall be construed to repeal, modify, or affect the Railway Labor Act, the Norris-LaGuardia Act, the Wagner Act, and Sections 6 and 20 of the Clayton Act."**

This language was inserted as a guide to the courts and to make clear the congressional intent that the provisions of the Hobbs bill "were not intended to prevent the doing of acts authorized under the above-mentioned statutes . . ."

When that proviso was originally inserted in the Hobbs bill, the Committee on Judiciary submitted a supplemental report dated April 7, 1943, containing the following language, which makes clear the foregoing:

**"It is considered by the committee that the provisions of Title I were not intended to prevent the doing of acts authorized under the above-mentioned statutes but in order to remove any question the committee has agreed to the hereafter-mentioned amendment, which is additional to the committee amendment contained in the original report and recommended therein."**

I repeat, the foregoing was inserted to make sure that the definition of the crimes of "extortion" and "robbery" would not be enlarged upon by courts or others, and that it would be confined to those acts and circumstances which constituted robbery and extortion prior to the enactment of the Hobbs bill.

In other words, what was not robbery or extortion prior to the enactment of the Hobbs bill is not made robbery or extortion by its enactment.

And whatever act, conduct or means was lawful activity on the part of unions and workers in furtherance of labor disputes prior to the enactment of the Hobbs bill is still lawful, and all the protections afforded workers under the Norris-LaGuardia Act, etc., still remain.

That removes any doubt respecting the legality of demands for "stand-bys," or receiving payment for "stand-bys," or similar demands which were lawful prior to the passage of the Hobbs bill.

The foregoing construction is further fortified by statements made by Congressman Hobbs and other proponents of the bill with respect to the last draft of the bill, the one which was finally enacted.

Such statements appear on many occasions in the Congressional Record. Of great significance is the statement of Attorney General Tom C. Clark, setting forth his opinion to the President:

**"Attorney General Tom C. Clark stated today that he had advised President Truman that H. R. 32, the so-called Hobbs bill, does not interfere with the rights of unions in carrying out their legitimate objectives."**

**"The Hobbs bill makes it a felony for any person to commit robbery or extortion which in any way obstructs, delays, or affects interstate commerce or**



the movement of any article or commodity in interstate commerce.

"The attorney general informed the President that, in his opinion, the bill was not intended and could not be construed to deprive labor of any of its recognized rights, including the right to strike, to picket, and to take other legitimate and peaceful concerted action." (Emphasis supplied.)

\* \* \*

"Title II provides that nothing in the bill shall be construed to repeal, modify, or affect the Railway Labor Act, the Norris-LaGuardia Act, the Wagner Act, and certain sections of the Clayton Act.

"The attorney general informed the President that Title II, and the bill as a whole, must be construed in the light of interpretive statements made during the congressional debate on the measure.

"These statements, he said, indicate a clear legislative intent that the bill should not apply to legitimate union activity and the exercise of any of labor's fundamental rights.

"The attorney general pointed out that explicit statements to this effect had been made in Congress by the author of the bill (Representative Hobbs of Alabama), by the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and by other members of that committee, including the ranking minority member."

In signing the bill, President Truman stated:

"The attorney general advises me that the present bill does not in any way interfere with the rights of unions in carrying out their legitimate objectives.

"He bases this conclusion upon the language of the bill, as a separate measure, and upon the legislative history.

"He makes reference, in particular, to Title II of the bill. That title provides that nothing in the bill shall be construed to repeal, modify, or affect the Railway Labor Act, the Norris-LaGuardia Act, the Wagner Act, and specified sections of the Clayton Act, i.e., the great legislative safeguards which the Congress has established for the protection of labor in the exercise of its fundamental rights.

"The attorney general also advises that the legislative history shows that

the bill is not intended to deprive labor of any of its recognized rights, including the right to strike and to picket, and to take other legitimate and peaceful concerted action."

A word of caution is in order. As indicated herein, the basic test determining whether persons may be subjected to prosecution under the Hobbs bill is whether or not their activities constitute the crime of robbery or extortion, as defined by state laws.

In making that determination, it would not, of course, be wise to assume that, merely because a particular activity had never previously been prosecuted by state authorities as robbery or extortion, therefore those activities are not affected by the Hobbs bill.

The important thing is whether the state laws on extortion or robbery have, in fact, been violated.

If the acts do constitute a violation of the state laws, and they affect interstate commerce, then the federal authorities may apply the Hobbs bill.

If any unions are in doubt as to whether previous activities violated laws against robbery or extortion, they should, of course, consult counsel.

In conclusion, I advise that the Hobbs bill in no way affects the lawful activities that unions have engaged in prior to the passage of the Hobbs bill.

The bill does not prohibit any acts except robbery and extortion, and violence in furtherance of robbery and extortion.

The bill defines "robbery" and "extortion" in the same way as do the statutes of the State of New York.

The bill does not prohibit striking, picketing, or boycotting, or other lawful activities in furtherance of demands for increased wages, shorter hours or other improved working conditions.

In short, that which was lawful prior to the enactment of the Hobbs bill is not made unlawful by the Hobbs bill.

---

President Truman, by his veto of the emasculated OPA bill, challenged the Congress to provide a system of adequate price control or to accept full responsibility for the sky-rocketing of prices if markets are left uncontrolled.

—Illinois State Federation Weekly News Letter.



# Rising Prices Imperil Democracy

## Industry Pictures Strikes as "Communist Conspiracies"

By LESTER M. HUNT

**I**N THE first 14 days after Congress strangled the OPA, the prices of 28 basic commodities rose 22.7 per cent.

That means that in two weeks the wages of American workers decreased 22.7 per cent. That two weeks' price rise wiped out most of the recent wage increases won by unions, in some cases after long and costly strikes.

But that 22.7 per cent price increase is just the beginning.

The big industries were holding back until they were sure that the OPA was really dead. They feared that too rapid price increases would create an irresistible public clamor that would force Congress to act in the public interest by reviving the OPA.

So the public got only a 22.7 per cent increase the first fortnight.

After leaving the country at the mercy of inflation for three weeks, Congress reached a complicated compromise which would assure higher profits—and prices—and put the enforcement of a greatly weakened OPA under a three-man board.

Congress did not restore OPA. It merely provided a substitute with that label. After three weeks of runaway prices, it is impossible to revive and enforce the OPA protective regulations as they were.

And the new bill assures that prices will be left uncontrolled for still longer, making price stabilization still more difficult.

Economists estimate that under present conditions the cost of living will have risen 40 per cent by winter.

President Tobin, through the columns of this magazine, has repeatedly warned that such a condition would bring a wave of strikes that would paralyze industry and throw the country into the most disastrous depression it has ever experienced.

He has also warned repeatedly that free

enterprise could not survive the shock of such an ordeal. We would lose our form of government, emerging with some kind of totalitarian system under which the government would fix wages, prices and profits.

Naturally no labor leader wants such a condition under which the workers would have their wages fixed by federal edict.

It was to stop the steady advance in that direction that President Tobin issued his warnings, hoping that industry would awaken to its peril before it was too late to save it.

Now, ignoring the appeals of all enlightened labor leaders as well as the advice of a few sensible business men, Congress has opened the flood gates. It has legislated inflation.

A crisis confronts the country.

If industry would be contented with moderate profits, if it would hold a reasonable price line, the crisis would disappear. Production would increase and the peril of inflation would be dispelled.

The common sense of American business would save "the American way of life."

No such common sense has been manifested. Prices started up at an alarming rate, completely unjustified by conditions. Labor was working steadily. No wage increases had been granted that would necessitate or excuse an increase of 22.7 per cent in 14 days.

Labor is still steadily at work. But it will not remain at work if prices continue to rise, as they will probably do.

Every price increase reduces the wages of labor. After a short time the working man becomes unable to buy the essentials of life with his pay check.

Then he lays down his tools and demands more wages. Industry uses that as the excuse for higher prices. Eventually, nobody can buy the products of industry. Factories



close. Millions of men are idle. Industrial paralysis results.

That is the destination toward which we are speeding.

Apparently industry is becoming disturbed at the prospect and is seeking desperately to avert the impending strikes. With its celebrated lack of originality, it is pulling the old Communist skeleton out of the closet.

It is attempting to brand, in advance, all future strikes as Communist conspiracies directed by Moscow in a campaign for world domination.

In that way it believes it can arouse public hostility to any future strikes which may occur.

A campaign toward that end is already under way in the national magazines and in the daily press. Having prepared the public for "Communist uprisings," it will then portray as such, any strikes that occur when the workers have reached the point that their wages will not feed their families.

With strikes distorted into alien conspiracies, the demand will be made to call out the army to suppress, not a strike, but a "conspiracy to overthrow the government."

In short, professedly to avert a revolution, industry has decided on tactics that are a revolution. After the strikes have been quelled by armed force, the next step will be to destroy the unions as the breeding

places of "Communist uprisings." Then the army and those who control it will be in charge of the government. We will be given Fascism to save us from "Communism."

It worked in Italy. It worked in Germany. Maybe it will work here. At least, it will be tried.

There are not enough Communists in the United States today to take over any one of the large international unions, even if every one of them was a member of it.

Yet the campaign now under way would make the public believe that labor is in imminent danger of being seized by the Communists. To protect us from that fancied danger, they would destroy us.

This campaign will create more Communists than any possible propaganda from Russia. When men get hungry, they get desperate. When their wages are inadequate to sustain them, they will not work.

If anyone attempts to drive them to work at the point of a bayonet, they will rebel. Once in revolt, they will go to any extreme. Then there will be acute danger of Communism, fostered by the very people who say they want to save the country from it.

Prices rising at their present rate will lead inexorably to disaster. There is still time to save "the American way" if anyone wants to do it. Apparently business does not. Neither does Congress. The responsibility for what happens is theirs.

## Members Should Continue Payroll Savings

President Tobin has received a telegram from Gilbert E. Hyatt, Sr., chief of the labor section of the savings bond division of the United States Treasury Department, requesting Teamsters to continue their payroll savings.

The telegram follows:

"A nation-wide campaign of the Treasury Department is now under way urging Americans to invest in savings bonds to the best of their ability. This is not a drive like the war loan drives but it is particularly timely as a powerful weapon against inflation through persuading people to lay money away in bonds instead of spending it on goods they do not need.

"In wartime we urged all workers to invest at least 10 per cent of their earnings to beat the Axis tyrants. Now we urge them to invest all they can spare to help themselves and to continue on the payroll savings plan with its voluntary labor-management policy.

"Will you kindly transmit this message to your affiliated organizations?"

The message is herewith transmitted and with it the approval of the International Union. The International advises every member to save every nickel he can as a protection against the dangerous days ahead. And there is no better or safer place to save it than in United States bonds.



# St. Louis Returns to Daily Milk

## New Contract Gives Wage Raises with Better Service

**L**OCAL No. 603 of St. Louis has just demonstrated convincingly that daily delivery of milk does not mean a loss of pay for milk drivers.

A contract signed with the St. Louis dairies last month stipulates the daily delivery of milk and at the same time provides an increase of \$6 per week for the drivers and \$7 per week for the inside dairy workers.

The signing of the contract was reported in a telegram to International headquarters on July 8 from Secretary-Treasurer Patrick J. Burke of Local No. 603.

The daily delivery program has been given a thorough trial in St. Louis since November 26 of last year, when the union insisted that the dairies revert to their previous daily delivery schedules in view of the fact that the wartime emergency had passed.

Every-other-day delivery had been ordered by the government as a emergency measure. The union agreed to it as a patriotic obligation notwithstanding the great reduction in employment that it entailed.

When the war ended, however, Local No. 603 insisted that daily delivery service be restored. It was restored on November 26 and since then the consumption of milk by the public has increased to such an extent that the dairies added 100 new routes and 100 new drivers.

When the contract came up for renewal, the dairies demanded a clause that would permit a return to every-other-day delivery. They admitted they had made a million dollars a year by reducing deliveries during the war.

The union flatly refused to compromise that question.

"I don't care if you offer us \$100 a week basic pay," Mr. Burke told them, "the union will not compromise that question. We are looking to the future when our members may face unemployment. Under the every-other-day delivery our membership

will shrink to 600 men within six months. We have 1,350 members now.

"We are not going to agree to any proposition that will throw more than 50 per cent of our membership out of work."

Mr. Burke's position is in thorough accord with that of the International Union, which has repeatedly charged that the ultimate program of the dairies is to abolish milk delivery entirely.

Then milk distribution centers would be set up at which the public would be forced to call for their milk or go without it.

These accusations have never been denied by the dairy industry.

By eliminating delivery costs, the profits of the milk industry would increase to enormous totals, even though thousands of children were deprived of milk in the quantity a growing child should have.

The success of Local No. 603 in proving that wages can go up with daily delivery drew congratulations from Thomas E. Flynn, executive assistant to the general president.

"Local No. 603 has proved our contention," he said. "The union is to be commended for its long-range view of the question and its success in improving the conditions of its members and its service to the public."

Mr. Burke pointed out that as a result of daily delivery in St. Louis, every man who left his job for military service is at work, as are all the men hired by the dairies during the war to take their places.

The union has taken care of both its war veterans and its war members and has raised the pay of all of them.

When the union first demanded that the dairies resume peacetime operations, many stalled by claiming that they could not obtain trucks.

Mr. Burke discovered that one of the most obstinate dairies had put 26 trucks in storage and was keeping them there while



it told the union it could not find equipment.

The union gave the dairy 15 days to put the trucks in condition to roll. And at the end of that time they were rolling, with recently returned soldiers and sailors at the wheel.

Mr. Burke estimates that 100 more drivers will be employed within the next few months as the dairies acquire sufficient equipment to meet the steadily rising demand for home-delivered milk, fresh every morning.

## A Bad New Labor Law—Chicago Sun

*Editorial from The Chicago Sun of July 8*

**W**HEN the Hobbs anti-racketeering bill was passed, this newspaper termed it a legislative monstrosity. Nothing in President Truman's message, explaining his reasons for signing the bill, alters our judgment that it is extreme, vague, one-sided and should have been vetoed.

The President said he had been assured by Attorney General Clark that the bill would not "in any way interfere with the rights of unions in carrying out their legitimate objectives." He pointed to the section reaffirming the Norris-LaGuardia, Clayton and Wagner acts, which establish the basic rights of labor. He stated that the legislative history of the measure indicates it was not intended to harm labor generally.

But the language of the bill is extremely broad in defining "robbery" and "extortion" in interstate commerce. Presumably it is no longer legal for Teamsters' Union members to coerce payments from farmers driving their own trucks into city markets, and, of course, it ought not to be.

The question is whether the law may not be applied more widely—against strikers who, for example, throw a mass picket line around a steel mill and thus interfere with interstate commerce.

Is a mass picket line a "legitimate" union activity? Most people say it is not, but the problem is surely one for local law enforcement. If the Hobbs bill should be applied the pickets would face 20 years in federal prison.

Mr. Truman and Attorney General Clark have ventured a guess on how the Supreme Court, in many future cases, may interpret the law. That is not always a safe course. But let us assume that the guess is correct and that the stated purpose of the Hobbs bill will not be distorted.

It is still legislation revealing the vindictive spirit of Congress toward unions. The relatively minor wrong an individual union member may do subjects him to two decades of imprisonment as a felon.

In the Wagner Act, which outlines illegalities from which an employer is prohibited, there is no criminal penalty whatsoever. The worst that can happen to an employer is an order to reinstate improperly fired employees with back pay—and many such employees lose a lot more money than the farmer does to the Teamsters on a New Jersey highway.

---

EDITOR'S NOTE—The International Brotherhood of Teamsters has consistently maintained the right of a farmer to drive his own produce to market without question. It is only when a farmer becomes a for-hire trucker by transporting general merchandise and the crops of a number of farmers that the Teamsters' Union insists that he operate under union conditions like the other for-hire truckers with whom he competes.

---

It has always been our contention and our position that industry must not only provide decent wages for workers who are at work, but must also provide protection and security when, because of illness or accident, they are unable to produce.—*The Hat Worker*.



# Congress Abdicates to Profiteers

## Taft Leads Coalition Against Public Welfare

**W**ITHIN a few hours of the time that price control would legally expire at midnight of June 30, Congress perpetrated its greatest hoax on the people.

It passed an OPA act which Congress said protected the people from inflation. But Congress spoke with a forked tongue. Instead of protecting the nation from inflation, it made inflation certain, assuring huge profits for industries already fat from profits.

It left renters at the mercy of profiteering landlords. It left every family at the mercy of food profiteers and clothing profiteers. In fact, it virtually turned the government of the United States over to the profiteers.

President Truman promptly vetoed the measure on June 29 and threw it back at Congress with a veto message that exposed the duplicity of the men who passed it.

Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio, alleged to be a large holder of real estate, was the man who actually scuttled OPA by spiking it with amendments that pyramided the cost of everything.

And it was on Taft that President Truman fixed the blame as he explained and exposed the methods by which Taft and his associates in the reactionary coalition of southern Democrats and northern Republicans had brought inflation upon the country.

The President's veto was applauded by President Tobin and other labor leaders. They said the President could have done nothing else, that the bill was a farce as Congress passed it.

President Truman's veto left Congress faced with the necessity for immediate action. It had about 36 hours to act. It could have saved the country from disastrous consequences by passing, as the President urged, a resolution extending the OPA as it existed until the members perfected a more permanent measure.

Instead, Congress floundered in its own red tape and finally, after the House sustained the veto of the fraudulent OPA bill,

both houses adjourned until almost noon on July 1.

The senators and congressmen could not be bothered with a meeting on Sunday, June 30, to meet the emergency. They simply adjourned and went golfing or fishing while they let the OPA die and threw the country into its greatest economic crisis.

While rents were being increased by huge percentages and while the prices of food and clothing were soaring, the Senate began consideration of a new OPA bill.

Taft and his colleagues went to work again with their hatchets, chopping the new bill to pieces as they had chopped up the old one. They were callous to the desperation of their constituents.

After several days of talk, which cost the public millions of dollars in inflated prices, the Senate showed its contempt for their cries for help.

On July 9, the Senate, by a vote of 49 to 26, adopted the amendment of Senator Wherry of Nebraska removing all price controls on livestock, poultry and eggs in the new OPA bill.

On July 10 the Senate, by a vote of 42 to 34, adopted an amendment by Senator Eastland of Mississippi removing soybean and cottonseed products from OPA control.

Also on July 10 the Senate, by a vote of 40 to 30, adopted an amendment by Senator Moore of Oklahoma lifting the controls on petroleum products, which includes gasoline.

And again on July 10 the Senate approved, 51 to 27, a proposal by Senator Wherry of Nebraska to take the lid off milk and milk products. In other words, the dairy lobby skims the cream.

On July 11 the Senate voted 59 to 20 to permit states to escape federal rent regulations by adopting regulations of their own. The old states' rights stuff. This amendment was offered by Senator Knowland of California.

On July 12 Senator Overton of Louisiana



got through an amendment by a vote of 45 to 34 exempting grain and livestock and poultry feeds from price control.

On July 12 the Senate adopted without a record vote the amendment of Senator Hoey of North Carolina eliminating tobacco from price control.

Thus Congress answered the pleas of the

people for protection. Never has the nation witnessed a more sordid spectacle as the big lobbies scratched each other's back and their puppets voted inflation for item after item demanded by the cattle bloc, or the cotton bloc or the farm bloc.

The people will pay and the blocs will collect.

# All Local Unions—Organize!

## Joint Councils May Assess Affiliates for Campaign

**E**VERY local union should support the efforts of the International in a general organizing campaign, with particular emphasis on warehouses and breweries.

Each local should embark on an organizing campaign in its own territory at once. To assure success, each local should establish an organizing fund by setting aside 50 cents of the dues of each member for three months to finance the campaign.

In some locals with large treasuries, this may not be necessary. The money may be available or it can be appropriated for that purpose by resolution of the membership.

It is not possible for the International to undertake the entire expense of such organizational work on a national scale. This is the primary duty of the local union and the joint council.

The International will assist liberally with legal advice, organizers and such help as is authorized by the constitution whenever possible.

The International has never levied an assessment on the membership and therefore has no fund for this specific purpose. Its general resources have been built up as a protection for the members in times of national uncertainty, such as the present.

The chief expense of the organizational work must, and should, be borne by the

local union. Business agents who cannot comprehend the necessity for immediate action are not qualified for the jobs they hold. They are blinded by local conditions if they cannot see the picture as a whole throughout the country.

Business agents are chosen and paid by the membership to provide leadership. The membership has the right to expect it from its officers. Officers who fail or refuse to meet their responsibilities are penalizing their local union.

No union has its territory so well organized that there is not room for expansion. It is of the utmost importance that our membership include all workers over whom we have been awarded jurisdiction by the American Federation of Labor.

This job should be done speedily and thoroughly. To expedite it, the International will permit joint councils to levy assessments on member locals.

In many cases it will be advisable for the local to spend additional funds of its own to carry on its organizing.

This is no time to fret about the expense of the job. It is essential to our future that it be done.

Time and money invested in it will be well spent and will pay dividends in union security and in living standards.

---

It would appear that the jurisdictional rights of the international unions in the American Federation of Labor could be applied in a manner that would create more faith, confidence and respect among the millions who carry union cards in their pockets. There are so many yet to be organized that there is hardly any excuse for any union raiding the ranks of those already organized. It ought to

stop.—*The Butcher Workman.*



# Truman Exposes Peril in OPA Bill

## Veto Message Brands Measure as Sure to Bring Inflation

Following is a large part of the veto message of President Truman on June 29, branding the mutilated OPA bill as a measure that would bring inflation in the United States and serious consequences to the entire world. The President urged Congress to meet the emergency before the OPA died at midnight June 30. He makes clear the responsibility of Congress for the hardships the nation is now suffering.

I AM returning without my approval H. R. 6042 amending the price-control laws and extending them for another year.

The choice which H. R. 6042 presents is not a choice between continued price stability and inflation. It is a choice between inflation with a statute and inflation without one. The bill continues the government's responsibility to stabilize the economy and at the same time it destroys the government's power to do so.

If this bill were allowed to become law, the American people would believe that they were protected by a workable price-control law. But they would not be protected and they would soon come to a bitter realization of that truth. It is only fair to tell them the facts now.

The lesson from our own experience after the last war, disastrous as it was to our farmers, our workers, our manufacturers, our distributors, and our consumers, has been too easily obscured by the annoyances and irritations and the occasional inequities of price control.

The fact that inflation has already gutted the economy of country after country all over the world should shake our comfortable assurance that such a catastrophe cannot happen here.

For five years we have proved that inflation can be prevented. It still can be prevented if we have the will to prevent it. Today the opportunity of completing the transition from war to peace with an economy which is stable, sound, and secure is within our grasp.

To avoid sacrificing this opportunity requires courage, wisdom, and self-restraint. This winter and spring the tensions have been more acute than ever before. We are all weary and impatient of government re-

strictions and controls. We are all eager for the day when we can pursue our own affairs in our own way. In such a mood there is the natural temptation to remove essential safeguards, prematurely."

This bill yields to that temptation. It would provide us with no real safeguards at all. It would start prices and costs climbing and keep them climbing. It would start the value of the dollar falling and keep it falling. Far from helping production, it would retard it. In the end this bill would lead to disaster. . . .

The Taft amendment would wholly destroy the program of wage stabilization which has been so painstakingly, and at times painfully, developed during the months since V-J day. . . .

There is a grim irony in the fact that the Taft amendment is defended as a stimulant to production when in fact it will greatly impede production.

The evidence is readily at hand. For weeks we have seen meat and other commodities withheld from the market in anticipation of higher prices. . . .

This is the beginning of an inevitable spiral of uncontrolled inflation—a race between rising wages and rising prices. Farsighted leaders of both labor and management know that nothing can be gained—and everything lost—by simply letting prices and wages chase each other. . . .

Let us remember further that inflation and collapse in the United States would gravely jeopardize our efforts to build the kind of international economic relations that will provide a solid basis for world peace. The whole structure of international prices, currency values, and financial and trade relations is still unsettled. Because of our position and influence in world trade



and finance, inflation and collapse in this country would shake the entire world.

In short, the most serious difficulties of the transition from war to peace are already behind us if only we have the wisdom and fortitude to see to it that the forces of inflation, so long held in check, are not unleashed when victory is all but won.

Therefore I call upon the Congress to act and act now by passing a bill which will give the nation adequate assurance of completing a successful transition to a sound peacetime economy. . . .

In the face of these alarming consequences to the country if the present bill should become law, I urge the Congress with all the earnestness at my command to reconsider the whole problem of stabilization.

In that reconsideration, let us see just where we stand today. Under the existing stabilization laws production has recovered remarkably from the shock of war's end. Output of civilian goods already surpasses the 1941 level and employment exceeds that level by six million.

This record has been achieved in spite of shortages of critical materials and parts and in spite of extended work stoppages in basic industries. The major labor-management disputes are settled, and we are moving rapidly toward the realization of our post-war objectives of full production and full employment in a sound economy. . . .

The great majority of the American people want an effective price control law. They are entitled to have it. Under such a law we can win the war against inflation just as decisively as we won the war against the Axis.

Most members of the Congress have not yet had an opportunity to take an unequivocal position on this issue. As the present bill became more and more heavily loaded with amendments during its 4½ months' progress through the Congress the issues became more and more obscured.

Members who wanted more effective price control were found voting for the bill, or for particular amendments to the bill, on the basis that these were the best that could be secured. Side by side with them were members who wanted to weaken price control or get rid of it altogether.

It is most unfortunate that the Congress has delayed final passage of a bill down to the eve of the very date of termination of the existing law.

As far back as September 6, 1945, I urged the Congress to pass an extension of the Price Control Act at an early date so as to avoid the uncertainties which have made control more difficult for the last few months. Had this been done there would now be no necessity for these last-minute decisions. I repeated my request to the Congress to extend price-control legislation without crippling amendments again and again—on January 21, 1946, May 22, 1946, May 25, 1946, and June 11, 1946.

Nevertheless, just before the expiration of all price control there has been presented to me by the Congress an impossible bill.

I cannot bring myself to believe, however, that the representatives of the American people will permit the great calamity which will befall this country if price and rent control end at midnight Sunday. On behalf of the people I request the Congress to continue by resolution the present controls for the short period of time necessary to write a workable bill.

The fight against inflation is never easy. We are battling against economic forces which have caused us untold misery after every previous war and which have overcome or are threatening to overwhelm many of the nations engaged in this war.

We shall not win this fight by soft measures.

All of us who must play a part in the decision of this issue face a solemn responsibility. We stand at an historic moment. Our actions will be judged by the American people and judged again by history.

---

What sort of a crazy world is this when in the richest country on the globe millions of citizens—hard-working, decent citizens—can neither buy nor rent the kind of home an American should occupy?

—*Sacramento Valley Union Labor Bulletin.*



# Milk Prices Rise as Subsidies Go

## Dairy Industry Takes Advantage of Consumers

CONGRESS has eliminated food subsidies, which kept prices up for the farmer and down for the consumer.

The price of milk, for instance, was 1.3 cents lower per quart because of subsidies paid by the government to the dairy farmer. That means milk delivered on your doorstep.

When Congress removed subsidies, the price of milk, therefore should have gone up 1.3 cents.

But what happened?

Milk went up two cents, and three cents, and in some places four cents a quart.

To compensate for a loss of 1.3 cents per quart, the dairy interests charged you several times that amount.

Newspaper editorials have attempted to alibi for the dairy industry. They say that the removal of subsidies by Congress doesn't really cost the consumer any money because he paid the federal subsidy in taxes.

Therefore, when the subsidy is removed, your taxes should be decreased. Were they? Will they be?

Indeed they have not or will not. You will still pay the same in taxes without subsidies as you paid with them. Thus the increase in the price of milk is IN ADDITION to your taxes. If, as the newspapers say, you were paying 1.3 cents in hidden subsidy for a quart of milk, you are still paying it.

And on top of that, you are also paying the increased cost of the milk. So, when the dairy boosts your price two cents, you are actually paying 3.3 cents, if the newspapers told you the truth about subsidies.

It happens they did not tell you the truth. The consumer did not pay the entire subsidy. The subsidy came out of general taxation. Those who paid the most taxes paid most of the subsidy, which is as it should be.

The principle of subsidies is that by the government paying a certain amount to producers, the price of the product can be kept

down where families of low income can buy it.

The family of a working man with several children could afford to buy more milk because of the subsidy. When Congress abolished the subsidy it didn't save you taxes, it saved them for the corporations and the citizens with high salaries.

That's why Congress eliminated them. They forced the working people to take over the cost of subsidies previously borne by those who could best afford them.

And the dairy industry immediately took advantage of the situation by raising prices two or three times the amount of the subsidy. They thought you wouldn't know any better.

The dairy industry is not giving you any extra milk or better milk or better service for the higher prices. They are still delivering every other day, compelling you to take so much milk that it often sours before you can use it.

- The dairy industry did not raise the pay of its drivers or incur any other delivery expense whatsoever when Congress killed subsidies. It merely reached into your pockets to filch a few pennies which, added to the pennies it steals from everybody else, will run into millions of dollars.

You only have so much money to spend for milk. When milk prices go up 15 or 25 per cent, it means you must use less milk, or less of some other food. The amount of food you can buy is reduced when its cost increases. It isn't simply a question of stealing a few pennies. The milk industry is actually taking food off your table and compelling your children to drink less milk.

It is also reducing jobs for milk drivers and dairy employees because there won't be as much milk bottled or sold.

High prices mean less food and fewer jobs.

That's what the dairy industry is giving you.



# Memphis Local Dedicates Building

## President Tobin Praises Progress in South

**W**ARM congratulations from President Tobin marked the dedication by Local No. 667 of its new building in Memphis on July 17. President Tobin's message to the officers and members of the progressive southern local was carried personally to the union by International Organizer Norman

C. Murrin of Indianapolis. The general president expressed his appreciation for the dedication of the building to former General Secretary-Treasurer John M. Gillespie and paid high tribute to Mr. Gillespie's lifetime of service to organized labor.

President Tobin's message follows:

I congratulate the officers and members of Local No. 667 of Memphis for the progress you have made, as exemplified by the fact that you have now acquired a permanent home of your own.

I deeply appreciate the invitation you extended me to be present and to help dedicate your building to the memory of John M. Gillespie. No other name better deserves such recognition. His name should be remembered by the working people for his lifelong, untiring efforts and accomplishments in their behalf. It is a cause of deep personal regret that I cannot accept your invitation to be with you for the ceremonies on July 17. You may be certain that if it were possible, I would be there.

We, in the International headquarters, have watched with pride the constant progress of our southern unions, determinedly going forward in the face of obstacles which would defeat less resolute men.

In the South you have met and conquered conditions that are only a memory of a dark and almost forgotten past in other sections of the country. You have faced conditions such as the pioneers of the labor movement faced half a century ago. You are worthily carrying on the traditions they left you.

During the past few years when you have been struggling to gain a foothold and bring higher living standards to the workers of the South, no one watched you with greater interest than John M. Gillespie. He was present in all the conferences held at the International headquarters to devise methods of procedure in the South, to map strat-

egy, and to give aid where it was needed. He was truly a champion of our southern unions. It is thus fitting that you honor his memory.

Whatever assistance Gil gave you in the South would have been impossible except for the firm foundation on which he helped establish the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the entire labor movement during a lifetime of service to both.

Because of the early efforts of Gil and other pioneers, we have a strongly organized labor movement that can provide help to you. And when the will to organize developed in the South, after decades of oppression, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters had the power to assist you and protect you.

John Gillespie was driving a team of horses in Boston for \$9 a week when I first met him almost 50 years ago. We were trying to organize a union to correct the intolerable conditions under which Teamsters worked. Drivers then received little pay, no vacations, no Sundays off, and were forced to work unlimited hours.

The hours were as long as the horses could stand. The employer was careful of the health of his horses. He cared nothing about the health of his men.

In those days it was almost a criminal offense for a man to belong to a union. We had to conceal our membership and meet furtively. After years of effort to build a strong union with the members under constant threat of dismissal if their union affiliation was detected, we obtained a Teamster



charter in 1903 with Mr. Gillespie as a charter member.

Four years later we felt strong enough to demand a pay raise of one dollar a week, which would make \$13 for most drivers.

When we made those demands, we heard the cry with which you are familiar. The employers said we were wrecking their business. They said such wages for a Teamster were fantastic. They said it would destroy free enterprise.

We went on strike and for 17 weeks we passed through one of the most savage and bloody eras of labor history. Our men were beaten and killed by armed strike-breakers.

Finally we were forced to accept compromises that left the union intact and in position to win substantial victories later. It was a strategic retreat.

It was under such circumstances that

John Gillespie learned unionism. What he learned he never forgot. He proved his leadership and integrity under trying circumstances. He became business agent of the local, then International organizer, then assistant to the general president, and, finally, general secretary-treasurer of the International Union.

During all his years of service as a representative of the local union and the International office, he discharged his responsibilities to the membership of our union with unwavering fidelity. It is fitting that you should perpetuate his memory with your new home. It shows that you have absorbed some of the spirit he put into organized labor.

With that spirit to guide and inspire you, you cannot fail to reach new heights of accomplishment in the years to come.

## Another Taft Candidate Loses in Minnesota

It is reported that Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio spent a lot of money in Minnesota trying to re-elect the rabid isolationist, Senator Henrik Shipstead.

Aside from his friendship for Shipstead, Taft was anxious to discredit former Gov. Harold E. Stassen, who was directing the campaign against Shipstead.

Stassen is Taft's rival for the Republican presidential nomination in 1948. Stassen's victory in Minnesota has stamped him as the outstanding Republican candidate.

If Taft had re-elected Shipstead, he thought he could tie up the Minnesota delegation to the 1948 convention for himself.

He probably had the same idea in mind when he interceded in Wisconsin in behalf of Senator Robert M. La Follette. Taft brought pressure on the Republican state convention to indorse La Follette. The results were disastrous. La Follette got only one vote out of 2,329. Maybe Taft got him

that one vote. Or maybe Taft lost him all the rest.

Taft may have also tried to help former Senator Gerald P. Nye, a more dangerous isolationist than Shipstead, in the North Dakota primaries. The defeat of Nye indicates Taft's bungling touch.

Soon Taft may wake up to the fact that he is one of the most disliked and distrusted men in America. They are even hanging him in effigy in his home state.

We predict that if the Republicans should be assinine enough to nominate Taft for President, he won't even carry Maine and Vermont.

And by the way, La Follette has never explained why he accepted Taft's support in Wisconsin. Does it mean, as Taft boasted, that La Follette has become Taft's kind of a Republican?

We asked La Follette that in June. We repeat the inquiry in August. We're still listening, senator.

---

Failing to cut wages directly of the working people of our country, big business is doing the same thing by means of inflation, by sweeping upward revision of prices. This has been accomplished very quietly at a time when most of their propaganda through press and radio was lashing out at workers who are endeavoring to obtain a living wage.—*Western Hotel and Restaurant Employee.*



# Labor News Notes of the Month

*(From the Federated Press)*

**NEW YORK**—Heavy Wall Street pressure on Washington is holding up a criminal anti-trust indictment charging more than 30 New York banks, insurance and trust companies with a monopoly conspiracy in the mortgage money-lending market, which has contributed to the desperate housing shortage here.

**SEATTLE**—Organized labor and consumer groups here have marshalled their forces to halt inflation. A deluge of wires to Congress was backed by pledges to participate in a nation-wide buyers' strike until an effective OPA law is enacted.

**WASHINGTON**—A sternly worded warning that "rapidly rising prices inevitably bring demands for higher wages—strikes—and interruption of work schedules" was given President Harry S. Truman and Congress July 11 by Reconversion Director John R. Steelman.

**SAN FRANCISCO**—The California unemployment appeals board has ruled that persons who refuse to pass picket lines where there is police protection are not eligible for unemployment benefits. Only those physically prevented from entering struck plants, or under fear of violence, are held to be eligible.

**BATON ROUGE, LA.**—A bill to outlaw the closed shop in Louisiana was vetoed here by Gov. Jimmie H. Davis, putting the brakes on a union-busting drive for this legislative session.

**WASHINGTON**—The July issue of the American Federationist, official monthly organ of the AFL, features an attack by Secretary-Treasurer George Meany upon the newly formed World Federation of Trade Unions.

**MILWAUKEE**—Many butchers here are refusing stocks at the present outrageous prices. When one customer turned down round steak at 90 cents a pound the butcher, extending his hand, said: "Shake, sister. Let it rot on the shelf. Maybe that will bring down the price."

**WASHINGTON**—A total of 37 senators who voted for the Case anti-labor bill on May 25 cast their ballots July 9 for the removal of meat and poultry from OPA control and followed up July 10 by taking milk, butter and cheese out of the emasculated bill.

**CHICAGO**—The amount of rent increases reported by Chicago tenants as demanded by profiteering landlords has mounted every day since July 1 and by July 12 had reached an average of 80 per cent above OPA rents, an official of the Tenants' League revealed.

**WASHINGTON**—Four firms which together produce and sell over 75 per cent of the total production of variable condensers in the U. S. have been criminally indicted on Sherman anti-trust act charges, Attorney General Tom Clark announced July 9.

**MORRISVILLE, PA.**—A caravan of buses and 125 automobiles packed with more than a thousand AFL workers brought food, clothing and medical supplies to striking agricultural workers at the 3,200-acre Starkey Farms here July 14.

**WASHINGTON**—The Department of Justice announced July 9 criminal indictment of the Shoe Factory Supply Corp. of Brooklyn, N. Y., on charges of black marketeering in textiles. The firm is alleged to have gotten 2,500,000 yards of textiles for servicemen's shoe linings and channeled over half of it into the black market, making \$73,000 over the ceiling price on the deal.

**NEW YORK**—A buyers' strike of the world's largest city was formally launched July 23 with demonstrations by 70 consumer, veteran, labor and civic organizations in six shopping centers.

**SAN FRANCISCO**—Local No. 3, International Union of Operating Engineers (AFL), is the first union local in the U. S. to own and operate its own multi-engine plane.

**RICHMOND, VA.**—A call for its 30,000 members to join in a buyers' strike in protest against rising prices was issued by the Richmond Central Trades & Labor Council (AFL).

**NEW YORK**—The AFL Maritime Council of Greater New York suspended picketing of piers in New York and other Atlantic ports for 14 days July 15 after accepting a Labor Department offer to arbitrate its differences with CIO maritime unions on the west coast.



**TOLEDO**—Striking members of the Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees (AFL) voted to return to accept a 12-cents-an-hour wage increase and to resume work, ending a 10-day walkout on July 12.

**MELLEN, WIS.**—The International Woodworkers (CIO) lost its 4-month strike here. Some 200 workers employed at three veneer products companies went back to work on company terms: the return of all men to their jobs under the same conditions as they left, plus a 5 cents hourly raise.

**SAN FRANCISCO**—In line with a Navy Department directive, all civilian employees of the Hunters Point navy yard have been required to sign no-strike pledges.

**DALLAS, TEX.**—Three hundred evictions and mass rent demonstrations brought 20 landlords and tenants to court with black eyes and other signs of fist-work.

**WASHINGTON**—Since the end of the war, the proportion of women workers in production has dropped to a point only slightly higher than it was before the war, according to a Bureau of Labor Statistics announcement July 8. In October, 1939, 26 per cent of factory workers were women. The figure rose to 33 per cent in April, 1945, and has since dropped to 27 per cent.

**SAN FRANCISCO**—"Thousands of jobs are going begging while government agencies encourage shiftless workers to become conscienceless parasites through a dole." This is the nifty produced by the California Manufacturers' Association, an outfit claiming to represent 475 of the 15,000-odd manufacturers in the state.

**WASHINGTON**—U. S. Employment Service Director Robert C. Goodwin said July 8 that 10 out of 12 World War II veterans discharged by early June either were employed or were taking advantage of the educational provisions of the GI bill of rights. The number of veterans not at school and seeking work dropped in May from 1,690,000 to 1,520,000, he said, adding that three million ex-servicemen have found jobs in the last four months.

**OAKLAND, CALIF.**—A campaign by the Barbers and Beauticians' Union (AFL) for a 5-day week in Alameda county has been successful and barber shops throughout the county will remain closed on Sundays and Mondays.

**WASHINGTON**—Dr. Hiram Evans of Atlanta, Ga., former imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, was found liable for \$350,000 tax shortages in the U. S. Tax Court here. The federal claim for the back taxes was based on earnings of road-building firms in which Evans was an official. He had previously been indicted in 1942 for embezzlement in Georgia, pleading no contest and taking a \$15,000 fine.

**ALBION, MICH.**—A minimum annual wage of \$1,450 for full-time Methodist ministers was agreed to by the Michigan Methodist Conference. This minimum is for single men and works out to 72½ cents an hour, figuring 50 weeks' work at 40 hours a week. For married preachers the minimum will be a nickel an hour more and for married men with children the minimum will be 82½ cents an hour.

**WASHINGTON**—The war bonds patriotic Americans bought to help win the struggle for freedom and democracy will be hit early and hard in the inflation speeding our way because of the removal of price controls by Congress. A federal financial expert told Federated Press that if a 40 per cent inflation could be expected, and he assumed that to be a conservative figure, it will wipe out \$32 billion of an estimated \$80 billion in the liquid savings of U. S. citizens.

**BOSTON**—The present U. S. Congress is the "worst" he has ever seen, AFL President William Green told a convention of the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders.

**WASHINGTON**—Some of the millions of dollars annually that consumers have been paying for canned goods may be saved in the future if the anti-trust suit of the Department of Justice throws a big enough scare into the American Can and Continental Can companies, now under indictment for alleged violation of the Sherman anti-trust act.

**WASHINGTON**—Organization of the Oak Ridge, Tenn., atomic energy plants got top attention July 10 as AFL President William Green and southern Representative George Googe complained to Secretary of War Robert Patterson over army interference with unionization of 40,000 Oak Ridge workers.



# Newspaper Demands Daily Milk

Milkman Interviewed by Editor on Radio

AS THE price of milk in Indianapolis increased three cents a quart within 30 days—one cent in anticipation of the death of OPA and two cents in celebration of it—*The Indianapolis Star* opened an editorial campaign for the restoration of daily delivery service.

This is the same newspaper which last November refused a paid advertisement from Joint Council No. 69 demanding the return of daily deliveries to provide service for the public and jobs for veterans.

Later Publisher Eugene C. Pulliam apologized to the Teamsters for refusing their ad. Since then, Mr. Pulliam has evidently learned something about the milk business and the huge profits it has made by retaining wartime conservation measures as a permanent policy.

On Sunday, July 14, Joseph K. Shepard, labor editor of *The Star*, asked the Teamsters to supply one of their members for a radio interview on the subject as a feature of the weekly labor program produced by Mr. Shepard over Station WIRE, operated by *The Star*.

Local No. 188 of Indianapolis supplied one of its members who is employed by a non-union dairy. To protect him from retaliation by the dairy, which does not suspect his union affiliation, his name was not given by Mr. Shepard in the radio interview.

For the same reason, it is not mentioned here.

The Teamsters inserted display advertising in *The Star* calling attention to the radio program. According to all indications, it attracted a large listening audience and created considerable discussion of an embarrassing nature for the dairies.

The text of the radio interview follows:

SHEPARD—*We have on the program today a milkman. I invited him here to give us all some first-hand information on the subject of the delivery of milk, over which a controversy has raged since 1942, when the government first prohibited the daily*

*delivery of milk as a wartime measure to conserve manpower and equipment. He has asked me not to mention his name, so we will just call him Mr. Milkman, and I hope he keeps his bottles quiet. Why do you not want your name mentioned, Mr. Milkman?*

MILKMAN—Because I work for a dairy that would resent the views I may express here this afternoon and because if it was known that I was sympathetic to the union, I would unquestionably be subjected to discrimination by my employer.

SHEPARD—*Then you are sympathetic to the union?*

MILKMAN—I was requested to appear on this program by Local No. 188 of the Teamsters' Union. That ought to answer your question.

SHEPARD—*It certainly does. But the law protects you from discrimination by your employer because of your union sympathies, activities or affiliation.*

MILKMAN—Maybe it does. But it does not protect me from discharge for appearing on the radio to advocate a business policy that my employer would consider contrary to his interests. Therefore, I would prefer not to give my name. If the company doesn't know who I am, it's a cinch they can't punish me.

SHEPARD—*Well, we certainly don't want you to be penalized because you are exercising your privileges as an American citizen and stating your views on a question of great importance to every family in Indianapolis. So we will just call you Mr. Milkman. How long have you been a milkman?*

MILKMAN—Twenty-four years as both a retail and wholesale driver.

SHEPARD—*I presume you would prefer not to give the name of the company you work for.*

MILKMAN—That is right. It would be much easier to identify me if the dairy council knew on whose payroll to look.

SHEPARD—*What do you think of the daily delivery of milk, Mr. Milkman?*



MILKMAN—I am in favor of it.

SHEPARD—*You are? Why?*

MILKMAN—Because it would be good for the milk industry and good for its employees. It would give the public better service. Under the every-other-day delivery of milk, particularly in the summer, it is impossible to supply the milk our customers need, and would use, if we delivered it daily.

SHEPARD—*You mean to say that people use less milk when it is delivered every other day, than when it is delivered every day?*

MILKMAN—That is what I mean.

SHEPARD—*Can't they get milk from the store on the days there is no delivery?*

MILKMAN—Some of them can and some can't. Milk is pretty heavy to carry. When a woman is forced to carry her groceries home, as thousands of them are, she cannot carry much milk. That means her family drinks less milk.

SHEPARD—*Can't a family buy enough milk to last two days until the next delivery?*

MILKMAN—The majority of the families in Indianapolis can not. They don't have large enough ice boxes. Thousands have no ice at all. You ought to know something about that. Your newspaper collects money every summer to buy ice for poor people.

SHEPARD—*Then the people who suffer most are those who need milk the most?*

MILKMAN—You are right. The families with big electric refrigerators and deep freeze units don't need to worry. But it is a problem for most of the people in Indianapolis.

SHEPARD—*How would a return to daily delivery of milk affect the working conditions and wages of the men on the routes, like yourself? Would it decrease your wages?*

MILKMAN—That's what the dairies say. They say that to scare their men so they won't agitate for daily delivery. As a matter of fact, it would not need to reduce wages if the drivers were as well organized in Indianapolis as they are in most cities of the country. Under present conditions, one man covers two routes. He does the work of two men. But he doesn't get the pay of two men.

SHEPARD—*How much does a milk driver get in Indianapolis?*

MILKMAN—I would say that the average pay for a retail milk driver is \$75.

SHEPARD—*For a forty-hour week?*

MILKMAN—Oh, no! For a 72-hour week.

SHEPARD—*Do you mean to say that the milk drivers in Indianapolis work a 72-hour week. Why, that's 12 hours a day for six days.*

MILKMAN—How well I know it. And don't forget that the last customers served get milk that has been on the wagon for 12 hours. That doesn't make the milk any fresher in this weather. And by the time the last of it has been consumed by the customer, it is about five days old.

SHEPARD—*Could a milk driver continue to get good wages if the dairies returned to daily delivery?*

MILKMAN—He could if he was organized. And he could reduce his hours at least 30 per cent.

SHEPARD—*Wouldn't that increase the cost of milk to the consumer?*

MILKMAN—Already it has gone up three cents a quart in Indianapolis without increasing the pay of drivers and without giving better service to the customers. The price the dairies are now charging for milk is ample to give daily service to the customers and better conditions for drivers.

SHEPARD—*Didn't the removal of milk subsidies by Congress force the dairies to increase the cost of milk to the public?*

MILKMAN—Subsidy payments reduced the cost of milk one and one-third cents to the consumer. Therefore, when subsidies stopped, the price of milk should have gone up one and one-third cents—not three cents.

SHEPARD—*I read in one of the papers that the stopping of subsidies really means nothing to the consumer because he paid the subsidy in his taxes.*

MILKMAN—Then taxes should have gone down. Did yours?

SHEPARD—*No, they did not. I am still paying whatever taxes I paid for subsidies and in addition to that, I am paying three cents more for a quart of milk, some of it fresh, and some of it not so fresh. Tell me, Mr. Milkman, how much more should it cost the consumer to get daily delivery?*

MILKMAN—It should not cost a penny



more. You remember that the dairies were delivering every day at the old price when the government forced them to adopt every-other-day deliveries.

SHEPARD—*Yes and I remember that they said the government would ruin their business.*

MILKMAN—It gave them more profits than they had ever made before. That's why they want to continue that system.

SHEPARD—*I recall that the dairies here said that a return to daily delivery would increase the price one cent a quart. Now we don't have daily delivery but are paying three cents more a quart. Didn't you say a while ago that the consumption of milk is decreasing under every-other-day deliveries?*

MILKMAN—I did. And the increased price will decrease the demand still more.

SHEPARD—*Then how can the dairies be making the big profits you just spoke of?*

MILKMAN—Because they have cut their delivery costs in half by making one man do the work of two. The extra profits come in smaller payrolls and less equipment. But when the demand for the products of any industry is decreasing, that industry is in an unhealthy condition. The milk industry has admitted that by raising prices. The next step will be to reduce the commissions of its drivers. The milk industry in Indianapolis is a contracting industry, rather than an expanding one.

SHEPARD—*I suppose the industry will come out with a lot of figures to show that milk consumption is higher than it ever was.*

MILKMAN—Then why do they need three cents more a quart?

SHEPARD—*I assume you believe that the consumption of milk will decrease steadily because of poor service and high prices as the city returns to normal after the war.*

MILKMAN—I thoroughly believe that.

SHEPARD—*The dairies will probably challenge your statement that they could pay their drivers as much money as they are making now.*

MILKMAN—Maybe they will. But I know that no milk driver now employed in Indianapolis can continue to work long at his present pace. He will burn himself out. No man should be permitted to work a 72-hour week. I know that dairies can return to daily delivery and also raise wages.

SHEPARD—*How do you know that?*

MILKMAN—The Teamsters' Union in St. Louis has just signed a new contract with the dairies there providing for the daily delivery of milk with a pay raise of \$6 a week for drivers and a raise of \$7 a week for inside workers.

SHEPARD—*How much did the price of milk go up?*

MILKMAN—Three cents, just as it did here.

SHEPARD—*In other words, St. Louis returned to daily delivery and increased the wages of its employees on a three-cent increase. Indianapolis dairies raised the price three cents and gave nothing to either their employees or the consumer.*

MILKMAN—And don't forget that the dairy employees of St. Louis do not work a 72-hour week. They work union hours.

SHEPARD—*If the dairies challenge any of the statements made on this program this afternoon, I'll refer them to you.*

MILKMAN—Refer them to the Teamsters' Union. Our International office has contracts covering the milk industry in most of the cities of the country. If the Indianapolis dairies want to discuss the milk situation, the Teamsters' Union will be very happy to discuss it with them.

## One Term for Union Officers? How About Senators?

United States Senator Joseph H. Ball of Minnesota, one of the youngest members of the Senate, yet a self-certified expert on labor matters, addressed a labor-management meeting the other day in Pennsylvania and came up with the suggestion that union

officers be barred from serving more than two or four years in office. Well, how about limiting senators to one term apiece. Even one term is more than some of them deserve. Come on, Mr. Ball, be a sport. Put up or shut up.—*St. Louis Union Labor Advocate.*



# Bilbo Won by Threat of Violence

## U. S. Senate Should Refuse Seat to Mississippian

**T**HEODORE GILMORE BILBO was assured of re-election to the United States Senate in the primaries of July 2, a circumstance reflecting no credit on the State of Mississippi or the government of the United States.

It is the duty of the federal government to assure its citizens the right to vote without intimidation, particularly in elections for federal office like United States senator.

Federal troops should be sent anywhere that armed supervision is necessary to guarantee the basic rights of citizenship. That's what the Revolutionary War was all about. And the Civil War.

We won both those bloody conflicts and presumably established forever the principle that men are free and equal.

They were not equal and they were not free in Mississippi last month. That's why Bilbo won. Only a handful of the Negro population dared to vote. Bilbo had warned them that they did so at their peril. By such a threat, Bilbo violated the federal constitution.

Troop trains should have been rolling into Mississippi within 24 hours after Bilbo defied the constitution.

The United States Senate has the power to promptly enforce the constitution in this case. It can deny Bilbo the seat to which he was elected by threats of violence.

In many of the more enlightened parts of the country there was amazement that a

man like Bilbo could win any popular election anywhere.

The explanation is that it wasn't a popular election. It could not have been under the deplorable conditions existing in Mississippi, where only the economic aristocracy is permitted to vote.

The poor whites and the Negroes live in a slavery as abject as that existing before Sherman marched to the sea to set them free.

The majority of Mississippians exist in a condition of semi-starvation and disease. They are denied education as part of a deliberate policy to provide cheap and docile labor for the Mississippi mills and plantations.

Only the federal government can rectify this by the enactment and enforcement of public health, minimum wage and public school laws.

But whenever federal aid is proposed, Bilbo and other southerners threaten to paralyze the functions of government by filibuster.

Georgia was once in a state of blight like Mississippi. But under the enlightened leadership of such men as Gov. Ellis Arnall she has moved steadily forward.

Mississippi prefers to wallow in the swamp. She can send Bilbo to the Senate, but the Senate doesn't need to accept him. It should ship him back, preferably in a cattle car.

## White-Collar Workers Impressed by Magazine

Many white-collar workers who are not union men have been impressed with **THE INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER**, according to L. E. Rahn of Local No. 265, San Francisco.

In a letter to the International, Rahn remarked:

"As a former corporation white-collar unfortunate, I wish to compliment the editors on their choice of articles in the April issue.

"'So This Is Free Enterprise' has been circulated among a number of non-union acquaintances who all agree it is most convincing."

The editorial referred to by Mr. Rahn recounted the difficulties of Henry Kaiser in getting steel for his automobiles because of his friendliness to labor and his support of OPA.



# Executive Board Holds Meeting

Minutes of Meeting of General Executive Board Held in the  
Palmer House, Chicago, June 18 to June 25, 1946

THE general executive board opened its regular meeting in the Palmer House, Chicago, on June 18, 1946. The meeting was called to order at 10:45 a. m. by General President Daniel J. Tobin. All members were present, with the exception of Vice-President John P. McLaughlin and Vice-President Dave Beck, who were delayed.

The first business to come before the board was the installation of General Secretary-Treasurer John F. English. The obligation was administered by President Tobin.

A long-distance telephone call was received from International Representative Thomas P. O'Brien, in which he reported on the status of the Railway Express Agency negotiations. The company is offering an increase of 8½ cents an hour, retroactive to May 22, 1946, in addition to 10 cents an hour already obtained by the local unions, with no separate agreement for the New York metropolitan district. President Tobin briefly discussed the Railway Express Agency situation.

A letter was received from Local No. 259 of Boston enclosing a letter from Louis Leventhal, asking for reconsideration of the decision of the general executive board. The letter was read and the case discussed, and the board decided that the original decision stand as the action of the board.

That afternoon the board attended a nation-wide conference of representatives of all joint councils. It was called in connection with the meeting of the general executive board.

President Tobin called the conference to order and stated that the conference was called for several purposes:

1. Discuss the Case bill.
2. Discuss convention problem.
3. Danger to our craft, particularly from Communism.

President Tobin discussed the Case bill and Attorney I. E. Goldberg discussed the legal aspects of the Case bill.

The general president reported on convention problems. He stated that it is impossible to arrange sufficient hotel accommodations; that we need room for 2,200 delegates and from 600 to 700 wives and visitors, but no city can give us that much space. Chicago, New York, Los Angeles and other cities are too short of hotel accommodations.

While transportation is difficult, we might possibly solve this if there were hotels available. We need a convention badly because the constitution is in need of revision to meet changing conditions and changing laws.

There was a discussion by President Tobin of the general problems confronting the organization at this time and in the near future.

The meeting of the special conference continued on June 19. President Tobin discussed adverse labor legislation and reported that the Hobbs bill was reactivated in Congress yesterday (June 18, 1946). He pointed out the danger to personal liberty of business agents as a result of such punitive legislation and adverse court action.

The general president also pointed out that joint councils should settle jurisdictional disputes and superintend elections when requested to do so.

In discussing the brewery workers situation, President Tobin reported that the Brewery Workers appeared in Florida and asked the basis for return to the American Federation of Labor.

They were told compliance with decision in respect to Teamster jurisdiction. From Florida they went to Washington, D. C., and contacted the CIO. Referendum vote now being held. If they vote CIO, we will intensify our campaign to organize through-



out the breweries. Details of procedure along these lines were discussed. (NOTE: On June 24, 1946, information was received that the brewery workers voted to join the CIO by a vote of 22,933 to 19,241.)

Following this report there was a discussion of the steps and procedure to be taken by our local unions in organizing all Brewery Workers to protect the Teamsters' jurisdiction.

Vice-President Beck reported on the action taken by California local unions in recently taking in Brewery Workers; also on cannery cases.

The International Union received a request from the Western Conference of Teamsters for financial assistance in the amount of \$25,000 in the cannery situation on the West Coast. Motion duly made, seconded and carried that this assistance be given to the Western Conference of Teamsters.

The general executive board heard the plea from Jack Goldberger, business representative of Newspapers Drivers' Local No. 921 of San Francisco. After due consideration it was the decision of the board that Local No. 85 be ordered to transfer the men involved as soon as possible.

The International Union received a request from the Labor and Management Center of Yale University for financial assistance. This request was denied.

Vice-President Beck explained to the board a plan to reproduce the union shop card on the back of the due book. Secretary-Treasurer English called to the attention of the board the matter of due books in many localities not being uniform; that certain changes must be made in due books and other books necessary in the carrying on of the work of the local and International Union to modernize and bring them up to date.

It was unanimously voted that the board recommend to the convention that those changes be made and that the convention appoint a committee composed of the International officials to go into the matter of making the necessary changes to accomplish such modernization. It was likewise unanimously voted that the board recom-

mend to the convention the use of the shop card facsimile for the due book cover.

The publication of the American Trucking Association, *Transport Topics* of June 3 and 10, 1946, was brought to the attention of the board by Thomas E. Flynn, assistant to the general president, as demonstrating the unfriendly attitude of the American Trucking Association, particularly in fostering and promoting the Case bill and similar anti-labor legislation.

The general president reported that he had not been able to get the New England local unions and joint councils to voluntarily cooperate in an organizational campaign, though they promised to support fully any drive directed and supervised by the International Union.

It was regularly moved, seconded and unanimously passed that the general president be empowered to place any salaried employee who, in his judgment, is unable to work or who requests retirement because of sickness, upon the inactive list, the salary to be fixed in discretion of the general president.

The following committee from Joint Council No. 13 of St. Louis appeared in opposition to a request for separate charter for freight drivers of Local No. 600:

William C. Maul, secretary-treasurer,  
Local No. 600.

J. M. Ford, business agent, Local No. 600.

William Ryan, president, Local No. 600.

John Ray, business agent, Local No. 600.

Lawrence Camie, Joint Council No. 13.

T. R. Cronin, Joint Council No. 13.

The committee presented facts in opposition to the petition and showed that the welfare of the local and International Union would not be helped by granting the request. It was duly moved, seconded and carried that the request be denied.

The above committee also discussed the question of colored cab drivers in St. Louis, who requested a separate charter for a special group of colored livery drivers. The committee showed that it would be against the interests of the International Union to grant such charter. The board voted unanimously to deny the petition.



In the jurisdictional dispute between Locals No. 807 and No. 816 of New York City, the general executive board, after hearing the statements made on this case and reading the communications, decided that in accordance with the procedure of the International Union this matter be referred back to the joint council in New York City and that the joint council appoint a suitable committee of three to go into this dispute and make a decision to be observed by both local unions. Members of this committee should be absolutely unprejudiced.

A committee from Joint Council No. 13 of St. Louis appeared in reference to a dispute between Locals No. 618 and No. 600 in reference to an article in the Local No. 600 agreement.

The dispute arises out of refusal of Local No. 600 to observe Local No. 618's picket line because the contract only recognized lines of a strike endorsed by the International Union.

Since this was a contract provision, the general president pointed out that Local No. 600 could not violate same without subjecting the local union to law suits. In the discussion, the general president pointed out that this was another matter that should be handled by the joint council.

Attorney Goldberg discussed the action under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act involving owner-haulers of Local No. 916, Edwardsville, Ill. The attorney pointed out that where the regulations of the local union are for the direct protection of the hours, wages and working conditions of the employees, the use and rental of the equipment may be established through union.

The special committee then reported on the independent truck operators matter and recommended:

1. That the International Union establish a policy that in over-the-road operations in the future no additional independent truck operators be taken into membership;
2. That any local union violating such rule should lose jurisdiction over members working in over-the-road operations;

3. That a committee be appointed to confer with the joint councils in respect to the enforcement of the ten-hour law and no further trip lease arrangements;
4. That the following provision of the Central States Area agreement be enforced:

**"No additional new owner-operator arrangements shall be permitted, nor shall any owner-operator be permitted to drive or hold seniority where he owns three or more pieces of leased equipment."**

**"This provision shall not apply to present owner-operators having three or more pieces of equipment under lease arrangements, but such owner-operator shall not be permitted to put additional equipment in service so long as he engages in work covered by this agreement or holds seniority. Where owner-operator drives, he can hold seniority where he works sixty (60) per cent or more of time."**

5. That the sale of equipment to employees be discouraged.

The matter of owner-operator memberships was adjourned for further discussion at 9:30 a. m., June 21.

Edward F. Murphy, recently appointed trustee over the affairs of Local No. 249 of Pittsburgh, and the following committee appeared in connection with the affairs of that local union:

B. C. Mazon	Joseph Klenk
Leo B. Stehle	Joseph Ridge
John Atkins	Coleman Scanlon
Albert McGuire	Edwin Schell
James White	Andrew Holland
Melvin Humphreys	George Messmer
William Arensberg	Earl C. Bohr
Jerry Gradeck	

Organizer Murphy discussed conditions in the local union as he found them when he took over as trustee. President B. C. Mazon of the local union advised that the local executive board has confidence in Organizer Murphy and will comply with his suggestions and instructions.

The following committee appeared in connection with negotiation of the contract with the Railway Express Agency, Inc.:



David Kaplan,  
*Statistician*

John McNamara  
P. E. Holland

Thomas P. O'Brien  
M. W. Hoffman

Edward J. Slater  
Benjamin F. Tansy

The committee reported that the company is willing to give the Teamster local unions an additional  $8\frac{1}{2}$  cents an hour, retroactive to May 22, 1946, to effect the total  $18\frac{1}{2}$ -cent increase.

The Metropolitan New York local unions requested strike action. The board recommended that the local unions not strike if further negotiations do not result in a satisfactory conclusion. Later the board recommended that this offer of the company be accepted, as it was all that could be obtained at this time. This is an increase in wages of  $18\frac{1}{2}$  cents an hour over last year. This is the amount given by government boards to all railroad organizations.

The following committee representing the Local Cartage National Conference appeared before the board:

Hugh Sheridan, chairman, New York City.

Ben Guttman, Jr., St. Louis.

Joseph Adelizzi, New York City.

Eugene McNeill, Chicago.

The committee requested the board to appoint a committee to meet with a committee representing the Local Cartage National Conference to work out problems confronting both organizations. After being discussed by the board, a motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously that President Tobin write a letter to Hugh Sheridan denying the request that this committee be appointed at this time.

The appeal of Alphonse Caya from the decision of Joint Council No. 42 of Los Angeles, sustaining the decision of Local No. 399 of Hollywood, was heard by the board. Alphonse Caya appeared in person and H. L. Woxberg presented the case in behalf of Joint Council No. 42.

Brother Woxberg stated that the joint council rested its case on the record and asked the board to sustain the joint council in its action of sustaining the finding of guilty and penalty of expulsion.

Caya offered no defense of what he had done, nor any new evidence in the case.

President Tobin asked if he had any, and he said that he, too, rested his case on the record.

Upon being asked by President Tobin if he had had sufficient opportunity to present additional evidence and if, in his opinion, he had been given a fair hearing, he said, "Yes." Upon motion duly made and seconded, the board voted unanimously that the action of Joint Council No. 42 be sustained and that the appeal be denied.

The appeal of Walter L. Painter from the decision of Joint Council No. 40 of Pittsburgh, sustaining the decision of Local No. 30 of Jeannette, Pa., was heard next by the board.

Painter and the joint council were notified not to appear; that the case would be decided on the record, but that the parties could supplement the same by letter or other written statement. The case was considered on the record in the absence of Painter and representatives from the joint council. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the board voted unanimously that the decision of Joint Council No. 40 be sustained and that the appeal be denied.

A jurisdictional dispute between Local No. 41 of Kansas City, Mo., and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen exists over 80 employees of the Columbia Transfer Company. These men in question are members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen. It was reported that the brotherhood refused to relinquish our jurisdiction. It was decided to call a conference of our unions involved, for future action.

The board discussed the Hobbs bill and decided unanimously to urge President Truman to veto it.

There was a discussion of a motion passed at the February, 1946, general executive board meeting, in regard to eligibility to office of a member returning from the armed service. After discussion, upon motion duly made and seconded, the board voted unanimously to rescind its previous action, which held returning veterans eligible to run for office, and decided that the constitutional provisions must be complied with in the election of all candidates for office, as stated in Article II, Section 4.



The question of the failure of cannery workers' local unions on the West Coast to send mailing lists for the monthly journal was brought up. It was decided that Vice-President Beck is to make a study of this situation and make a recommendation to the board.

The board reconvened at 5 p. m., June 23, 1946, and Senator Claude Pepper of Florida appeared before the board and discussed the Hobbs bill and promised every assistance to our opposition.

There was further discussion concerning the impossibility to hold the convention in September of 1946. Efforts will be made to hold the convention as soon as possible, probably in May, 1947.

The following committee appeared before the board:

Rudy Minkin, Ohio Highway Drivers' Council.

Harry Card, Ohio Highway Drivers' Council.

James R. Hoffa, Central States Drivers' Council.

The signing of a separate over-the-road agreement by the local unions in the State of Ohio, contrary to specific instructions from the International Union, was reported. After full discussion, it was agreed that the committee would return and try to work out some understandings.

The board recommended that the next convention amend the constitution to incorporate specific provisions whereby the general executive board may direct the inclusion in contracts of terms and conditions deemed necessary to protect the welfare of the International Union or of a group of local unions.

The appeal of Roy Bahr from the decision of Joint Council No. 61 of Dayton, Ohio, sustaining the decision of Local No. 957, finding him guilty of conduct unbecoming a member and crossing a picket line, was heard by the board.

Roy Bahr appeared in person and stated he had every opportunity to present to the local union and joint council executive boards all his evidence in the case.

The general executive board, by unanimous vote, sustained the findings and deci-

sions of Local No. 957 and Joint Council No. 61.

However, the board determined that though Roy Bahr was guilty of the charges made against him, the penalties imposed were too severe and that the same be modified as follows: That the term of probation decreed by the local union shall extend to and terminate on July 1, 1946, and likewise the restriction on employment shall extend to and terminate on July 1, 1946; that his seniority rights as a driver operating out of the Dayton terminal of the Keeshin Motor Freight Company shall be restored; that a period of six months, commencing June 28, 1946, shall constitute a probationary period during which time Roy Bahr shall be prohibited from attending any meetings of Local No. 957, nor shall he be eligible to run for or hold office during said probationary period.

The modification of the penalty is conditioned upon Roy Bahr conducting himself during the probationary period in such manner as is expected of a good union man; that he shall observe the rules and regulations of the local and International Union and shall accord due and proper respect to the officers and other representatives of the local union.

The board heard the appeal of Gird W. Crosser from the decision of Local No. 790 of Marshalltown, Iowa, finding him guilty of violating his obligation by driving a strike-bound truck owned by the Bos Truck Line.

Crosser was notified of the date and time of the hearing but did not appear. The case was heard by the board, the record fully considered and the following decision voted unanimously: That while the board believes the man guilty and approves the finding of guilty by the local union, the board believes the penalty too severe. The penalty is therefore modified. The period of suspension shall be reduced from three years to suspension until July 1, 1947.

The appeal of William T. White from the decision of Local No. 391 of High Point, N. C., that White lost his seniority with the Southern Oil Transportation Company was heard. None of the parties appeared at the hearing. The case was considered by the



board on the record established. A motion was duly made, seconded and voted unanimously that the decision of the local union be sustained and that the appeal be denied.

Attorney Goldberg reported on the status of the Norman Thomas and navy officer cases; also on the settlement of the Wilson and Buckingham suits against the International Union, whereby the cases were dismissed with no payments of any kind to the Wilson and Buckingham companies. Report was also made concerning the status of the criminal proceedings against the South Dakota members, arising out of a fight during the Buckingham strike. Report received and filed.

Thomas E. Flynn read a request from Local No. 499 of Portland, Ore., for strike sanction for 300 bakery drivers. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the board voted unanimously to grant this strike endorsement because of the local union's failure to reach an understanding with their employers after negotiating for over 90 days, the local union having complied with all laws and rules governing the matter.

The appeal of Local No. 375 of Buffalo, N. Y., from the decision of Joint Council No. 46, modifying the penalty imposed by Local No. 375, was heard. The board gave full consideration to the various transcripts in the case. A motion was duly made and seconded and carried unanimously that the decision of Joint Council No. 46 be set aside and that the decision of Local No. 375 be sustained and the penalty imposed by the local union be reinstated.

The following committee representing the Distillery Workers' International Union appeared:

S. G. Lippman, Attorney  
James Dever  
Edward O'Neill

Thomas L. Pitts, representing West Coast Teamster unions, appeared with this committee before the board in connection with jurisdictional questions involving California Teamster locals and the Distillery Workers' International Union.

The Park and Tilford case was discussed. Vice-President Beck related the history of

the dispute of long standing between that company and Local No. 848. The general president raised the question whether or not the Distillery Workers' International Union had jurisdiction over salesmen.

It was pointed out that wholesale liquor salesmen carry goods and do make deliveries. It was pointed out that we did not want winery or distillery manufacturing employees but did want to protect our jurisdiction, which embraces drivers, helpers, warehousemen and salesmen. The meeting was progressive and helpful in clearing up certain matters.

The following committees appeared on the appeal of six individual Local No. 138 members, protesting the last election:

Local Union No. 138 by:

Abe Price, President  
Thomas Villards, Vice-President  
James O'Neil, Business Agent

Appellants by:

Jerome Palmenteri  
Benjamin Manowitz  
Henry Strachman

Joint Council No. 16 by:

Thomas O'Leary

The facts concerning the case were read by Thomas E. Flynn. The appellants stated that such statement fully presented their case and offered no additional matter. Abe Price presented the case of Local No. 138, and explained the former status of "T" book men and stated all "T" book men are now offered full membership in the union.

Appellants admitted that they did not protest to Vice-President Cashal or to Thomas O'Leary at the time of the election, but claimed at the time of the election they did voice objection to Brother Wachtel.

There was no protest at the meeting when the resolution was enacted by the membership. About 90 per cent of the veterans are back from service. The winning officers received about 600 votes to about 350 for defeated candidates. A motion was duly made and seconded and voted unanimously by the board that the decision of Joint Council No. 16 be upheld. It was further decided that the war is over and all individuals holding part membership in this



local union be admitted to full membership as soon as possible.

Many other subjects were considered by the board, and plans for future action were discussed.

The general president expressed his gratitude for the attention, aid and fine work of the members of the board. This has been a successful meeting and important work was accomplished with dispatch. He wished the

members a safe and speedy return home.

There being no further business to come before the board, the general president declared the meeting adjourned.

The next meeting of the general executive board will be held when it is deemed necessary and advisable by the general president.

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL J. TOBIN,  
General President.

## Four More Gold Stars on Teamster Roster

Slowly the full record of the wartime sacrifices of gallant Teamsters is being written. Four more deaths were reported last month, bringing the total of known war deaths to 521.

The latest gold star names are those of: PFC. DONALD M. WHEELER, Local No. 89, Louisville, Ky. He was killed by the Germans on March 11, 1945, and is now buried in Belgium, according to news from his family. He was in Company B, 310th Infantry, 78th Division. He was 23 years old and had won the combat infantryman's badge and three battle stars.

RAYMOND NORTHRUP, Local No. 294, Albany, N. Y. He was killed by the Germans at Magdeburg, Germany, on April 17, 1945, according to a letter from his mother, Mrs. John Northrup of Feura Bush, N. Y. He was with the 2d Armored Divi-

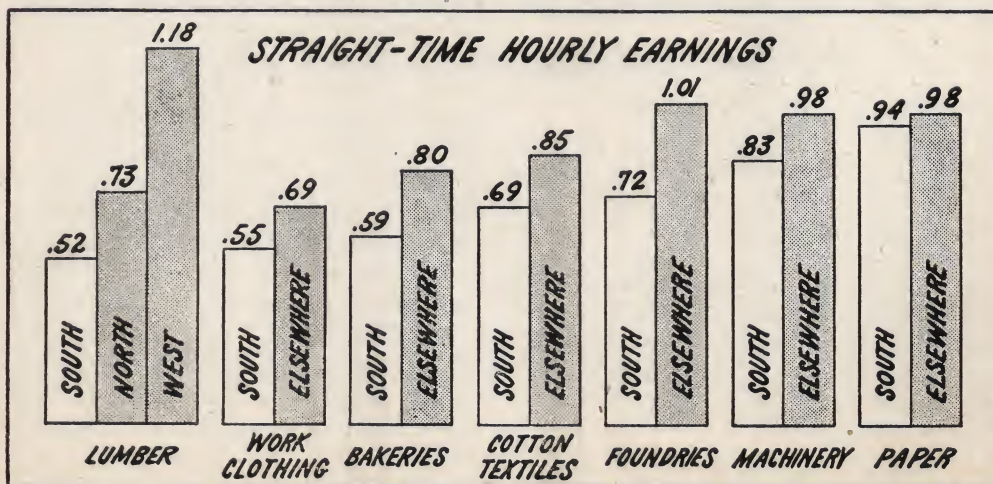
sion, known as "Hell on Wheels." He won the Silver Star for bravery, seven battle stars, two arrowheads for landing on hostile beaches, the Fourragere of the Belgian government, the Purple Heart and Good Conduct Medal. His unit also won a presidential citation.

RUSSELL BRACE, Local No. 325, Rockford, Ill. Killed in an airplane accident. Place, date and details unknown by his local.

LELAND HELLER, Local No. 325, Rockford, Ill. Killed by the Germans in the Battle of the Bulge.

Secretary L. A. Murphy of Local No. 325 reported the last two deaths. He also reported that Henry Lang and Clyde Garnhart were wounded and captured in France. Both have recovered and have returned to work.

### WAGES IN THE SOUTH ARE FAR BELOW OTHER SECTIONS OF THE COUNTRY



Source: U. S. Department of Labor. Lumber, 1944; other industries, 1945.



# The Cotton Monopoly Squeals

**T**HE National Cotton Council says the Teamsters' Union is "dastardly" because we proposed a boycott on cotton goods in retaliation for the boycott against organized labor by the South.

The National Cotton Council is entitled to its opinion. So are we. We think the National Cotton Council is a subversive organization, conniving with the congressmen and senators it controls to undermine the American standard of living.

The southern congressmen and senators who speak the words the National Cotton Council whispers in their ears are blatant members of the reactionary coalition in Congress which killed the OPA, the full employment bill, the minimum wage bill, the unemployment compensation bill, veterans' housing and public health measures.

They approved the Case bill, the Hobbs bill and every other measure proposed to harass organized labor.

And while these men were doing everything possible to hold wages down for the average citizen, they voted themselves generous wage increases far in excess of the stabilization policy of the government.

During the months that the public suffered from a shortage of shirts, sheets, dresses, work clothes and all other cotton products, the warehouses of the South bulged with baled cotton being hoarded for higher prices.

The OPA restricted speculation in cotton and restricted the price of cotton goods. So the members of the National Cotton Council went on strike against the man who needed a shirt and the woman who needed a dress.

And while the strike was in progress the "cotton bloc" in Congress reviled the OPA. They crippled its ability to enforce its decisions by cutting its appropriations. They falsified the record of the OPA and deceived the American people as to its program.

Finally they succeeded in killing it and cotton began to roll out of the warehouses while the National Cotton Council licked its lips in anticipation of taking the American people for a ride.

**What can we do about it? Just what we advised two months ago. Don't buy the stuff! Let it rot! Use rayon, silk, wool, nylon and other cotton substitutes soon to be plentiful.**

If the National Cotton Council can refuse to sell it when we want it, we can refuse to buy it when they want to sell it. They understand that language. That's why they are squealing.

And when the Bilbos and Rankins are no longer useful to the cotton monopoly in Congress, they may be replaced by others who are useful to the American people.



## WEAR THE EMBLEM OF OUR ORGANIZATION

THE CUTS

SHOWN REPRESENT

Button, Watch Fob and Cuff Buttons

SOLD BY THE GENERAL OFFICE



The prices are as follows:

Gold Plated Buttons (Sterling Silver) . . . . .	\$ .50 apiece
14-K Solid Gold Buttons . . . . .	2.50 apiece
Cuff Buttons . . . . .	1.00 a pair
Watch Charms . . . . .	2.00 apiece



All Members should have a copy of the International Constitution and Laws. . . . Copies, 5 cents each

Order through your Local



All orders should be sent through the Secretary of the Local Union to

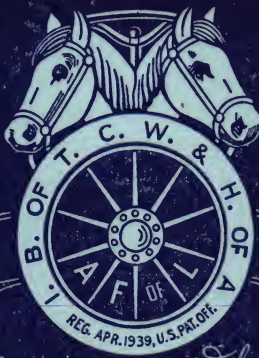
**JOHN F. ENGLISH, General Secretary-Treasurer**

222 EAST MICHIGAN STREET

INDIANAPOLIS 4, INDIANA

# UNION SERVICE

INTERNATIONAL  
BROTHERHOOD  
of TEAMSTERS  
CHAUFFEURS



WAREHOUSEMEN  
AND HELPERS  
OF  
AMERICA

Affiliated with

A.F. of L.

*Daniel J. Tolson* General President

*John M. Gillespie* Gen'l Secy-Treasurer

THIS IS THE PROPERTY OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS, CHAUFFEURS, WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS OF AMERICA

This is the standard union service sign officially approved for all branches of the Teamsters' Union. Order them from the general secretary-treasurer. The signs are of metal, 7 by 11 inches in size. They cost 25 cents each.